University of Massachusetts Amherst
Graduate Council of the Faculty Senate
Sarah Poissant, Chair
2023 - 2024

Noon, March 13, 2024
Goessman 250
Zoom Meeting:
https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96777999264

Meeting Minutes
31 in Attendance

18 Members of the Graduate Council in Attendance

Black, Joseph	Braden, Tom
Burke, Mary Ellen	Butler, Caitlyn
DeConto, Rob	Hess, Traci
Jesse, Alexandra	Katz, Neil
Mitra, Gaurav	Mohammed, Fareed
Poissant, Sarah	Ramsey-Musolf, Darrel
Reznik-Zellen, Rebecca	Tachtiris, Corine
Urla, Jacqueline	Vandenberg, Laura
Wolf, Tilman	Woodmansee, Kate

10 Members of the Graduate School in Attendance

Alhassan, Sofiya	Bauer-Clapp, Heidi
Jakob, Beth	Kelder, Nicole
Laramie, Devin	Monesson-Olson, Bryan
Passonno, Shana	Pope, Denise
Rathod, Bharat	Yunker, Johanna

3 Guests from the Graduate Student Senate in Attendance

Bhagat, Kunjal	Bhattacharjee, Zach
Pullannolla, Sumanth Reddy	

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Sarah Poissant called the meeting to order at 12:07pm, followed by a round of introductions.

II. Approval of February 14, 2024 meeting minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved by the council.

III. Comments by Graduate Dean/Graduate Council Chair/Faculty Senate Secretary

Dean Jacqueline Urla encouraged attendance at the May 3 Celebration of Graduate Excellence in the Massachusetts Room, Mullins Center. The May 17 Commencement ceremony moved to the stadium and there is no longer any ticketing, so folks can bring as many guests as they please.

IV. Old Business

- Consider Endorsement of Culturally Aware Mentor Training as a Best Practice

Chair Sarah Poissant moved to endorse Culturally Aware Mentor training as a best practice. The endorsement was approved by the full graduate council. Beth announced two more CAM facilitators will be trained in May, including Denise Pope, and upcoming CAM training dates will be posted.

V. New Business

- Required Syllabus Components – Aligning Proposals from the Graduate Council and the Academic Matters Council

Sarah shared the proposed required syllabus components compiled from the Academic Matters Council and Graduate Council. Both councils' suggestions were very close in nature. The document is going forward for approval by Faculty Senate. Once it has passed, the Graduate School will email GPDs. Two more suggestions were made, Sarah will send to Allison Butler (AMC) and Tony Paik:

1. It would be a helpful resource to include the link to liaison librarians for the last bullet (https://www.library.umass.edu/about-the-libraries/liaisons/).
2. For question 8, the description of all known course materials should be put in the syllabus, but the LMS allows for flexibility and the faculty can acknowledge that readings may be assigned throughout the semester based on student interest and available readings.

- Presentation and Discussion of GSS Proposal to Chancellor re: UWW/U+ Students
  Fareed Mohammed and Zack Bhattacharjee presented on the GSS proposal to the Chancellor. The main points of feedback from the council consisted of:
  - Fee schedule: currently based on number of credits. GSS should cap fees so U+ students would never pay more than traditional (cap at $80).
  - U+ student interest: need to find out more about the target audience.
    - GSS plans to survey online graduate students to gauge the level of interest in representation and what benefits they would like to see.
    - Good for GSS to follow up with Traci Hess. Majority of online grad students are in business programs. Working full-time is certainly going to impact their involvement.
  - Terminology: should use "U+" instead of "UWW".
  - Flex initiatives: programming would require significant effort, time, equipment, etc.
    - GSS leadership transitions each year- train and share institutional knowledge.
    - GSS plans to host 3-5 events per year, 2 could be speakers with zoom option or asynchronous content. Want everything to be flexible and available online.

VI. ASCC Committee Report

Convert an Experimental Course to a Permanent Course

- GEOGRAPH 694 Water: Sustainability & Action 04/14/2023 (ref #10258)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/10258

ASCC conditionally approved the following proposals.

- CHINESE 568 Modern Chinese Literature and Culture 10/22/2023 (ref #10957)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/10957

- GERMAN 778 Minorities and Minority Discourses in Germany since 1990 11/18/2023 (ref #11130)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11130

- EDUC 601P Foundations of Program Evaluation 01/24/2023 (ref #9705)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/9705

- EDUC 634V Data Visualization and Facilitating Use in Program Evaluation 01/26/2023 (ref #9722)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/9722

- EDUC 682C Capstone in Program Evaluation Practice 01/26/2023 (ref #9726)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/9726

- ART 676 Stop Motion Animation 11/27/2023 (ref #11155)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11155

Create a New Course

- SCH-MGMT 646 Investment Management 11/21/2023 (ref #11135)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11135

ASCC conditionally approved the following proposals.

- ART 677 Experimental 3D Animation 11/27/2023 (ref #11152)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11152

- EDUC 622M Program Evaluation Methods 01/26/2023 (ref #9727)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/9727

- NURSING 482/656 Caring for the Person with Substance Use Disorder 01/30/2024 (ref #11371)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11371

- NURSING 483/657 Prevention and Risk Assessment of Substance Use Disorder 01/31/2024 (ref #11386)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11386

- NURSING 486/658 Management of the Care of the Person with Substance Use Disorder 01/31/2024 (ref #11390)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11390

- NURSING 659 Drug Policy and Socially Just Care 01/31/2024 (ref #11391)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11391

The following conditionally approved proposals were tabled at the February 14, 2024, meeting.

- E&C-ENG 640 Embedded Security and Privacy 11/15/2023 (ref #11120)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11120

- E&C-ENG 540 Embedded Security and Privacy 11/15/2023 (ref #11121)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11121

- SCH-MGMT 634 Strategic Compensation 11/07/2023 (ref #11083)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11083

- SCH-MGMT 695 Workforce Planning, Recruiting, and Selection 11/07/2023 (ref #11084)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11084

- SCH-MGMT 666 Labor and Employment Law for Human Resources 11/07/2023 (ref #11085)
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11085

Create a Major Course Revision

The following conditionally approved proposals were tabled at the February 14, 2024, meeting.

- MANAGMNT 334 - Strategic Compensation 11/07/2023 (ref #11075) – *Change to MGMT 534 – Strategic Compensation*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11075

- MANAGMNT 335 - Workforce Planning, Recruiting and Selection 11/07/2023 (ref #11076) – *Change to MGMT 535 – Workforce Planning, Recruiting and Selection*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11076

Create a Minor Course Revision

- Create a Minor Course Revision: ECO 602 - Analysis of Environmental Data 01/30/2024 (ref #11368) – *Increasing credits from 3 to 4*

https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11368

Revise a Degree Program

- Revise a Degree Program: Finance Master of Finance (M.Fin) 11/21/2023 (ref #11139) – *Master of Finance (M.Fin) Program*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11139

Create a Certificate Program

- Create Certificate Program Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Piano 09/12/2023 (ref #10680) -- *Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Piano (Music & Dance)*

https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/10680

ASCC conditionally approved the following proposals.

- Create Certificate Program Graduate Certificate in Program Evaluation Practice 02/06/2023 (ref #9772) - *Graduate Certificate in Program Evaluation Practice (PEP): Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/9772

- Create Certificate Program Caring for People with Substance Use Disorder 01/03/2024 (ref #11260) – *Graduate Certificate in Caring for People with Substance Use Disorder (Nursing)*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11260

Revise a Concentration

- Revise a Concentration: Music and Dance 12/06/2023 (ref #11184) -- *Master of Music in Music Education*
  https://cps.provost.umass.edu/umacps/proposal/downloadReport/11184

ASCC Chair Traci Hess discussed the concerns that were raised around co-listing course numbers which resulted in the tabling of proposals at the last meeting. These concerns were addressed: reasoning related to accelerated 4+1 programs, how students can directly enroll in 500-level courses but not 600, and undergrads can take graduate courses which can double count for both undergrad and grad. All proposals passed with full graduate council approval.

VII. Comments from Administrative Officers and Others, as appropriate

1. Graduate School Administrators – Sarah congratulated Heidi Bauer-Clapp on the Three Minute Thesis Finals. Heidi announced that the winner, Thakshala Tissera from the English Department, will be part of a regional event next.
2. GSS/Student Members – None.

VIII. Announcements

None.

IX. Adjournment by 1:30pm or sooner

Sarah adjourned the Graduate Council meeting at 1:20pm.